

Annual Report of M.O.H.

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1925



REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

SPENNYMOOR URBAN DISTRICT.

TO THE

Chairman and Members of the Spennymoor U.D. Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the vital Statistics and Sanitary work of your District for the year ending December 31st, 1925.

This is termed by the Ministry of Health a Survey Report and that in this Report the Medical Officer of Health should be prepared to deal comprehensively with

(a) The measure of progress made in the area during the preceding five years in the improvements of public health.

(b) The extent and character of the changes made during that period in the public health services of the area (e.g. Housing, Water Supply, Sewerage, Scavenging or Refuse Disposal, Food Inspection, or other services affecting the environment of the inhabitants; and Maternity and Child Welfare Schemes, Schemes for the treatment of Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases, provision of Isolation Hospitals, or other services directed to the prevention or cure of Disease in Individuals.

(c) Any further action of importance in the organization or development of public health services contemplated by the Local Authority or considered desirable by the Medical Officer of Health.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The population at the time of the 1921 census was 18,238. The Registrar General's estimate for the year 1925 is 18,830. My personal opinion is that at present the population is at least equal to if not in excess of 1921.

Physical Features and General Character of the District.

The area comprises 3,388 acres and is partly Urban and partly Rural in character. It is bounded on the North by the River Wear on the South by the Railway from Merrington Lane to Binchester Colliery, on the East by the Darlington Road, on the West by the Highway from the River Wear to the Binchester Colliery Railway. The soil is clay throughout the district and as most of the houses are built with out a proper damp course, damp walls in the houses are common and difficult to remedy.

Social Conditions.—The chief occupation is Coal Mining, a large majority of men and lads of the district work in the coal

mines in and around the district. There are Coke Ovens near the centre of the district, although the smell from these is not very pleasant, I have not been able to trace any ill effects to them.

Unemployment has been very prevalent in the district, one local colliery being closed down and others not working full time and with reduced numbers of employees.

The Blast Furnaces have been closed down for some time. but there are small Foundries and Engineering Firms in the Town,

I am of opinion that Coal mining is not an unhealthy occupation.

The Miners on a whole are a strong healthy body of men, whilst Tuberculosis is not unknown among them, it is not in my opinion more common than in the rest of the community.

The Registrar General has again kindly supplied the number of deaths from all causes, the number of births, the estimated population of the district at the middle of the year 1925 and a Tabular Statement showing the number of certain Infectious diseases notified in the district with the case rates per 1,000 population from the same diseases in England and Wales during the year.

The estimated population as given by the Registrar General is 188,830 and this is the figure upon which is calculated the Birth rate and Death rate of your district for the year under review.

General Statistics.

Area 3,388 acres.

Population 18,830 estimated.

Number of inhabited houses 3609.

Number of Families or Seperate occupiers 3810.

Rateable Value £40,728.

Sum represented by a penny rate £169.

Vital Statistics.

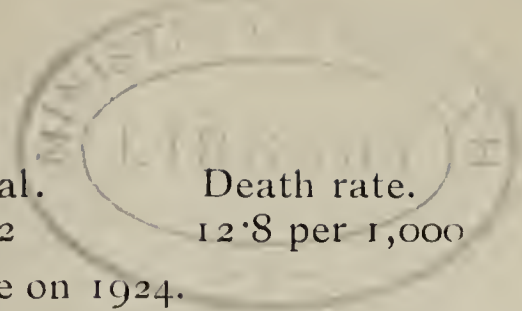
Births	Male	Female.	Total.	Birth Rate
Legitimate	246	230	476	} 26·3 per 1,000.
Illegitimate	15	5	20	
Total	261	235	496	

The Birth Rate is about the same as last year.

In 1922 the number of births was 508 and the birth rate 26·7 per 1000.

In 1923 the number of births was 470 and the birth rate 24·9 per 1,000.

In 1924 the number of births was 497 and the birth rate 26·3 per 1,000.



Deaths.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Death rate.
	138	104	242	12·8 per 1,000

The number of deaths show a decrease on 1924.

In 1922 the number of deaths was 220 and the death rate 11·6 per 1,000.

In 1923 the number of deaths was 211 and the death rate 11·1 per 1,000.

In 1924 the number of deaths was 281 and the death rate 14·9 per 1,000.

Deaths under 1 year	Male	Female	Total	Infant Mortality rate
Legitimate	30	18	48	
Illegitimate	5		5	106 per 1,000
Total	35		53	

In 1922 the number of deaths was 48 and the Infant Mortality rate 90 per 1,000 births.

In 1923 the number of deaths was 36 and the Infant Mortality rate 76 per 1,000 births.

In 1924 the number of deaths was 53 and the Infant Mortality rate 106 per 1,000 births.

The Infant Mortality rate is exactly the same as last year.

The chief causes of death were Conjenital Debility and Wasting disease, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea, Bronchitis and Pneumonia.

The Durham County Hospital and the Newcastle Royal Infirmary are very largely utilised by the inhabitants of the district.

Sanitary Circumstance of the District.

Water Supply.—The Water Supply in your district is now under the management of the Durham County Water Board, is of excellent quality and the supply during the year has been sufficient and continuous. It is Moorland Water, soft and pure. I suppose it is possible that such a water might have some plumbo-solvent action. If so I have never come across a case of Lead Poisoning that I could contribute to it. Former analyses have usually disclosed a slight trace of lead in the water.

Rivers and Streams.—These are regularly inspected by the County Council and District Council Officials, and cases of pollution such as from the Bye-Product Works in your district are dealt with by the County Council. There are two becks which run through your district, the one in Low Grange Road is contaminated with fine coke dust, and a certain amount of Chemical Matter. From a health point of view this is not so objectional as the other. The beck at the back of Bishop's Close Rows and the bottom of George Street still continues to serve as a receptacle for old

rubbish. The Council's workmen are continually cleaning it out. In my opinion the only satisfactory way to deal with it is to cover it in.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The whole of your district with the exception of the outlying farm houses is drained and sewered.

The Sewage Disposal Works consist of Screening and Detritus Chambers, Septic Tanks, Storm Water Tanks, Percolating Filters, Humus Tanks, also Sludge Drying Beds and Pumping Well.

An Engine House is also provided, containing the necessary engines and pumps.

Closet Accomodation.—There are at present in the district 377 water-closets, 3183 ash-closets, and 324 ashpit privies.

The substitution of ash-closets is being pressed ; but it would have been preferable to have had water-closets instead of ash closets, this would have been a greater improvement. During the year 76 ashpit privies have been converted into either ash-closets or water closets.

House Scavenging.—The removal and disposal of house refuse and the cleansing of ash-closets, privies and ashpits is carried out by your Council's workmen, and is very well attended to. There are two refuse tips maintained by your Council, the Slag Heap and York Hill Quarry, the majority of the night soil is utilised by the farmers for manuring the land, and when it is not allowed to remain long before being ploughed in, no objection can be taken to this method of disposal. This work is done in the winter months during the daytime, and in the summer at night.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.—The tabulated report of the Sanitary Inspector appears at the end of the report, and although this shews a lot of work that has been attended to, it is not nearly the amount that is required to bring most of the property into anything like the state of repair that is required. The owners are still very reluctant to spend money beyond the barest necessities on houses that they know are to be closed at the earliest opportunity. Overcrowding is still prevalent in the district, but with no alternative accomodation it is impossible to deal with any but the worst cases.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-Laws and Regulations.

Lodging Houses.—There are two registered lodging houses in the district these are regularly visited, and found to be clean and well conducted.

Factories and Workshops.—There are 75 in your district, and 5 Bakeries, these have been visited during the year, and any defects

and neglect of the regulations found have being remedied without formal notices being served.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—There are 28 on the register. Lime-washing and general cleaning are required twice a year, and frequent inspection is made.

Offensive Trades.—There are only two knacker yards that come under this heading. One of them is well out of the Town, and neither of them has given rise to any trouble during the year.

Places of Amusement.—In accordance with a circular of instructions issued by the Ministry of Health your Sanitary Inspector has made periodical visits to the Picture Halls, Theatre, etc, these have been found to be clean and fairly well ventilated. The Licensing Authority require that a certificate of the Sanitary Inspector be presented when the proprietor is applying for a renewal of his License. In most of the places there is a lack of Sanitary convenience.

Schools.—Most of the Public Elementary Schools in the District are comparatively new and up to date buildings. There are two C.E. Schools that are older and not so well adapted for their purpose, but I understand that the County Council have taken over the Tudhoe C.E. School.

The Water Supply and Sanitary arrangements are satisfactory in all.

Food.

Milk Supply.—On the whole there has been a better supply of Milk in the District during the year. There is a considerable variation in the quality of it.

In your District it reaches the consumer very shortly after it leaves the farms, but the slender care taken in many homes to avoid further contamination is truly deplorable, especially during the fly season.

All the Dairies and Cowsheds were inspected during the year and the bye-laws as to white washing, etc carried out. In some of the Cowsheds and Dairies the conditions are reasonably clean; in others they are far from satisfactory.

A higher standard of Milk should be aimed at, the open pail should be abolished, clean hands, clean overalls and clean cows should be the rule at every dairy farm.

Milk (Mothers and Children) order 1919.

The County Council carries out the provisions of this order.

Meat.—During the year, 20 lbs of Frozen Beef, 1 Pig and 130 stone of Beef were condemned as unfit for human food. This represents 3 full carcasses, which were Tubercular and shews the utility of the new Meat Orders and Regulations which came into force on April 1st, 1925.

The inspection of meat is carried out by your Sanitary Inspector and Medical Officer, and slaughter houses are visited as often as possible during the time of slaughter. All butchers having fixed slaughtering days it is possible for the Inspector to pay surprise visits and any slaughtering that is done apart from these days the Inspector must be notified. The inspection of meat would be more satisfactory than can possibly obtain under the present conditions, if a public abattoir was established in your district.

Although there is no reason to impugn the good faith of the butchers in your district, nevertheless it is only the trained eye that can recognise and interpret the true value to be placed upon any morbid appearance, however slight, that may present itself at the time of slaughter.

All the cottagers must notify the Inspector when a pig is going to be killed and your Inspector has examined all these and found none that were unfit for food.

Slaughter Houses.—Dec. 1920.

Registered 16

Licensed 3

Dec. 1925.

16

6

Food Inspection.—The following foods were condemned and destroyed during the year, 20 lbs of Frozen Beef, 1 Pig and 130 stone of Beef this included 3 full carcasses, 80 baskets of Lettuce, 22 Chips of Bilberries, 4 Bags of Potatoes.

The quality of food supplied in your district is on the whole good. The small dwelling house utilised as a shop is not an ideal place for the Storage and Sale of Food. One frequently finds the little front room overcrowded with all sorts of food stuffs, haberdashery, toys, hardware, etc, whilst the kitchen behind is encroached upon for extra storage room; a high standard of cleanliness under these conditions is very difficult, if not impossible to obtain.

To find a remedy without inflicting hardships upon these small traders is a knotty problem, and one has to be content, providing the Sanitary conditions of the premises do not fall below a certain standard.

Prevalance of and control over Infectious Diseases.

Scarlet Fever.—The total number of cases notified during the year was 53. These were all removed to your Isolation Hospital. There was no special epidemic during the year though the hospital has never been free of cases. Most of the cases were of a mild nature and there was only one death. I am glad to report that there has been no trouble in the cases removed to hospital so that out door nursing has been unnecessary.

Diphtheria.—Fourteen cases were notified during the year with no deaths. These were of a sporadic nature with no obvious source of infection—The bacteriological examination by the County Council of throat swabs in doubtful cases and the free supply of antitoxin to all practitioners has been of great value in combating the disease. The County Council have also sent the School Medical Officer to inspect any contacts when a case occurs in a School. This occasionally results in the discovery of a carrier who can spread the disease unless isolated.

No vaccinations have been done by me as your M.O.H. during the year. It is rather tragic and a source of much anxiety that about two thirds of the children are exempted from vaccination for one reason or another.

Non Notifiable Infectious Diseases.—Measles and Whooping Cough, particularly the latter, have been prevalent during the year, especially during the first half.

Measles was responsible for 9 deaths.

Whooping Cough ,, ,, 15 ,,

Owing to the prevalence of Small Pox in the County, Chicken Pox was made a notifiable disease during the last quarter of the year, but there was no case in your district to the end of the year.

Influenza.—There has been no epidemic of this disease during the year. There have been a number of mild cases.

Five deaths were attributable to this disease.

Pneumonia.—No cases of this disease were notified during the year. Most of the lobar cases seem to do well, though the broncho pneumonia of children is still a serious disease.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—No cases were notified during the year.

Other Notifiable Diseases.—No cases of Malaria, Dysentery, Trench Fever, Cerebro Spinal Fever, and Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis were notified.

Cleansing and Disinfection of Verminous Persons.—No facilities have been provided for this purpose. Scabies is still found prevalent in the district, though not so common as during the War.

Tuberculosis.—The notification of this disease by practitioners in the district shows improvement though I still hear of some cases through the Health Visitor after cases have been sent to the Dispensary. The County Council Medical Officers now notify their cases if not previously notified, I am notified by them when a case is discharged from a Sanatorium. The Registrar also notifies me of any death from Tuberculosis so that the house may be disinfected.

Thirty cases Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Ten cases of other were notified during the year.

The control of Tuberculosis and Venereal Disease is in the hands of the County Council.

The nearest Tubercular Dispensary is at Bishop Auckland (6 miles away) and there is now a special Session on Wednesdays for cases from your area. This has been done at your special request. As there is no suitable building in the district for a Dispensary and there is a good motor bus service to Bishop Auckland, this seems to be the most convenient arrangement.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

A successful Centre under the control of the County Council is established in your district—A medical woman is in charge assisted by two health visitors, a maternity nurse and a committee of ladies. I think the Centre is doing useful work in relieving necessitous cases, but fear there is some abuse of its charity.

Puerperal Septicæmia.—Two cases were notified during the year.

Ophthalmia Neonatism.—Three cases were notified during the year All made a good recovery—The County Council are prepared to admit these cases to hospital as urgent cases if necessary.

Sanitary.

Staff.—There is one Sanitary Inspector, who is also inspector under the Meat Regulations and supervises the Scavenging.

Hospital Accommodation.—The Council's Isolation Hospital situated in the Merrington Lane District, comprising:- Scarlet Fever block beds, and Enteric or Diphtheria block beds, Nurses residence, Steam disinfecter, Mortuary, etc. The Council also have a share with the Bishop Auckland Councils in a joint Small Pox Hospital at Binchester.

The Infectious Diseases Isolation Hospital is sufficient for the ordinary needs of the district but in times of epidemic of Scarlet Fever is quite inadequate.

Hospitals provided by County Council.

There is no Hospital for Tuberculosis in the District, the County Council provides Sanatoriums at :—

Hollywood Hall Sanatorium, Wolsingham

Hebburn Sanatorium, Hebburn.

Blackfell Sanatorium, Chester-le-Street.

Sunderland Tuberculosis Hospital.

Seaburn Tuberculosis Hospital, Ryton.

Stannington Children's Sanatorium.

Leazes House Sanatorium, Wolsingham. (Women)

Helmington Row Tuberculosis Hospital.

Tindale Crescent Tuberculosis Hospital.

to which most of the patients from this district go.

Adoptive Acts.

The Adoptive Acts in force in the District are:—

The Infectious Diseases Notification Act 1889.

The Infectious Diseases Prevention Act 1890.

Part III & v of the Public Health Amendment Act 1890.

Housing.

(1) *General Conditions.*—The houses in the district are of a mixed type. In the older part there are many houses that if alternative accommodation could be provided would have to be closed or reconstructed. There are 200 Back to Back houses that will have to be made into through when the housing shortage is relieved. There are about 600 Colliery Houses in the district owned by the Weardale Coal, Coke and Steel Co. These houses whilst not quite up to the present day requirements are on the whole fairly comfortable, and have ashcloset accommodation, but some have no separate yards. In the newer parts of the Town most of the houses are up to the present day requirements.

(2) *Extent of Shortage of Houses.*—(a) There is a great shortage of Houses in the district, there is not a single house to let in the district, and in many cases two, and in some cases three families are living in one house. Without allowing anything for tenants likely to be displaced by improvements, I am of opinion that 100 houses would soon be filled.

There is no general housing scheme in the district, and three houses were built by private enterprise.

At present there are about 1800 men living in Spennymoor who are working outside the Urban Area. If the Local Authorities in these outside areas were to provide houses for these men, there would be little shortage of houses in the district, and the Urban Council would be able to close most of the unhealthy houses.

Overcrowding

(1). *Extent.*—Overcrowding is very prevalent in the district. In dozens of cases two, and in some cases three families are living in houses only designed for one family. In many cases married children are living with their parents. It is difficult to give statistics but from personal observations, I am convinced that overcrowding is very prevalent.

(2). *Causes.*—The chief cause is undoubtedly the shortage of houses. For many years there has been a steady decline in building operations, the large number of two roomed houses is also a contributory factor.

(3) *Measures taken or contemplated for dealing with Overcrowding.*—It is almost impossible to do much under present conditions. If you get ejectment orders and turn the people into the street there is no-where for them to go, usually they get in with another family and the whole proceeding has to be gone through again. The only remedy is to provide more houses.

Fitness of Houses.

(a) *General Standard of Housing in the District.*—As previously stated the standard is a very mixed one. In the oldest part of the district some of the houses are very bad. There is quite a large intermediate class and in some of the newer parts the houses are quite good.

(b) *General Character of defects found to exist in Unfit Houses.*—There are a large number of old colliery houses in the district. They are mostly three roomed with a living room and scullery down stairs and an attic or tee fall bedroom in the roof with a sky light. The rooms are low and badly lighted. In most cases the owners have been compelled to put down cement flooring, in the rest the floors are bad. These houses will have either to be reconstructed or pulled down. The most prevalent defects are General Dampness, Dilapidations through Age, Foul Ashpit Privies, Insufficient Light and Ventilation, Cramped Back Yards, Defective and Insufficient Drainage absence of Damp Proof courses They are built on a clay soil. In many cases the dampness of the walls is due to improper sand being used in the building and plastering. It is a very difficult defect to deal with, a defect that is very general is the absence of wash house accomodation and this applies to many of the new houses as well as the old ones. In many cases the back yards are not large enough to allow a wash-house to be erected without encroaching on the necessary air space.

(c) *How defects are due to the lack of proper management and supervision by owners.*—Great difficulty has been experienced in getting the owners to do the necessary repairs, generally speaking very little attempt has been made to remedy these defects, which have resulted from faulty construction in the beginning, and short of reconstruction and alternate accommodation very little can be done to avoid a recurrence of these defects. The present high cost of labour and materials lead to putting off repairs as long as possible.

General Action taken as regards Unfit Houses.—

- (a) The Public Health Act — by Notices Served
- (b) The Housing Acts — by Notices Served

Difficulties in Remedying Unfitness.—There is still a shortage of labour in the building trade, the chief difficulty however is the high cost of labour and materials.

Conditions so far as they effect housing as regards the Water Supply. Closet accommodation and refuse disposal.—As regards water supply practically every house is supplied by the Durham County Water Board. In some of the houses there is a lack of closet or pantry accommodation.

There are 377 Water-Closets, 324 Midden Privies and 3183 Ashclosets in the district. No doubt it would be an improvement to have Water-Closets substituted for the Middens and Ashclosets.

Unhealthy Area.—Nothing has been done with regard to the area behind the Town Hall which was represented to be unhealthy. No steps can be taken until alternative accommodation can be provided, unless the present rate of building is accelerated or some considerable movement of the inhabitants occurs, it looks as though it would be some years before these houses can be demolished.

Bye-laws relating to houses, to houses let in lodgings and to Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.— We have byelaws relating to Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.

- (1) As to working of existing byelaws and
- (2) As to the need for new bye-laws or revision of existing bye-laws.

The Bye-laws are under Revision.

Your Obedient Servant,

S. V. TINSLEY, M.O.H.

TABLE X.—**Birth Rate, Death Rate and Analysis of Mortality** during the year 1925.
(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULA- TION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.	
		All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under Two years)	Total deaths un- der One yr.	Causes of Death cert- ified by Registered Medical Pr'ctit'ners	Inquest Cases	Uncertified causes of Death.
England and Wales — — —	18.3	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.32	0.47	8.4	75	92.1	6.9	1.0
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.03	0.18	0.09	0.30	0.43	10.8	79	92.1	7.3	0.6
157 smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000-50,000).	18.3	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.38	7.6	74	93.0	5.9	1.1
London. — — — — —	18.0	11.7	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.19	0.11	0.23	0.46	10.6	67	91.1	8.9	0.0

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remed'd	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i>				
Want of cleanliness	2	2		
Want of ventilation	2	2		
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances				
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient	1	1		
{ unsuitable or defective				
{ not separate for sexes				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101)				
Other offences				
Total	5	5		

Tuberculosis 1925

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0		1		1				
1		1	1	2			1	
5	3	2			1			
10	2	2	1		1			
15	3	1	1	1	1	1		1
20		5	1			3	1	
25		6		1	2	4		
35	2	1						1
45	1			1			2	
55					2	1		
65								
U'w ards	-							
Totals	11	19	4	6	7	9	4	2

Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1925.

Disease				Cases Notified	Cases R'moved to H'p'al	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	..	...		14	10	
Scarlet Fever	..	...		53	53	2
Enteric Fever	...	...		3	3	1
Puerperal Fever	...	...		2		
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...		
Erysipelas	...	...		11		
Tuberculosis	...	...		
Pulmonary Male	...	...		11		7
Female	...	...		19		9
Total	..	...		30		16
Non Pulmonary Male	...	...		4		4
Female	...	...		6		2
Total	...	...		10		6

(1) Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1925 and previous years.

Name of District—Spennymoor Urban

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett		Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages	
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number	Rate
1920	17698	656	36·9	72	106	252	14·2
1921	18530	586	31·0	55	93	252	13·5
1922	18530	508	26·7	46	90	220	11·6
1923	18850	470	24·0	36	76	211	11·1
1924	18850	497	26·3	53	106	281	14·9
1925	18830	496	26·3	53	106	242	12·8
Average	18548	535	28·7	52	97	243	13·1

Summary of Work done in the Sanitary Inspectors' Department during the year 1925, in the Urban District of Spennymoor.

I. PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.				Number of Informal written Notices by Inspector	Number of Formal Notices by order of Authority.	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice.
Dwelling-houses	Foul Conditions	}		7	1	7
and	Structural Defects			153		104
Schools.	Overcrowding		...	18		8
Lodging-houses	...	...		
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...		
Cowsheds	...	...		2		2
Bakehouses	...	...		
Slaughter-houses	...	...		
Ashpits and Privies	...	...		158	7	104
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...	...		4		4
Waterclosets	...	...		8		6
Defective Yard Paving	...	...		12		9
House	Defective traps	...	[Sewers	23		21
Drainage	No Disconnections from					
	Other Faults	...	...	127		122
Water Supply	...	...	...	6	1	4
Pigsties	...	...	...
Animals Improperly Kept	...	...	...	5		5
Offensive Trades	...	...	...
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...
Other Nuisances	...	...	...	16	1	15
Ashclosets	...	...	...	66		54
Totals	...	...	...	605	10	465

<i>II. Water, Food and Drugs.</i>	Number	Remarks.
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	10	20 lb of Frozen Beef 80 Baskets of Lettuce 22 Chips of Bilberries 4 Bags of Potatoes 1 Pig 130 stone of Beef All Destroyed.
Seizures of Unwholesome Food		
Convictions for exposing or selling Unwholesome Food		
Samples of Food and Drugs taken for Analysis		
„ „ found Adulterated		
<i>III. Precautions against Infectious Disease.</i>		
Lots of Infectious Bedding stoved or destroyed	14	
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease	97	
Schools do do do	7	
Prosecutions for exposure of infected persons or things		
Convictions for do do do		
<i>IV. General.</i>		
Number of new houses erected during year	3	
Number of such houses occupied during year	3	
Ashpit-privies converted into Ash-closets	74	
do do Water-closets	42	
Extra Water-closets	2	
Ash-closets converted into Water-closets	10	
Extra Ash-closets	4	
Total number of Water-closets in District	377	
do Ash-closets do	3183	
do Ashpit-privies do	324	

24th February, 1924.

ROBERT BAYLES, Sanitary Inspector.

To Dr. HILL, The County Medical Officer of Health, Durham.

Causes of Death during the Year 1925

[illegible]

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year	-	
(a) Total	-	3
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts 1919, 1923 or 1924.		
(i) By the Local Authority	-	None
(ii) By other bodies or persons	-	None

I.—UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

Inspection.—

1. Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	583
2. Number of dwelling houses which were inspected & recorded under the housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	76
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	12
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	70

II.—Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local Authority or their officers.	180
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III.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A. Proceeding under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	None
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—	
(a) by owners	None
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	None
3. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close.	None

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	8
2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied	
(a) by owners	6
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	None

C. Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909

1. Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders.	None
2. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	None
3. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit.	None
4. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of Demolition Orders were made.	None
5. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	None

EXTRACT FROM THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT AND THE CENSUS RETURNS, 1921

Acreage, Population, Private Families and Dwellings.

Table 3.

URBAN DISTRICT WARDS AND CIVIL PARISHES.		Area in Statute Acres, Land & Inland Waters	TOTAL POPULATION					PRIVATE FAMILIES & DWELLINGS.				
			1911	1921			Persons per Acre.	Private Families	Populat- ion in Private Families	Struct- urally separate Dwell- ings Occ'pied	Rooms Occ'pied	Rooms per Person
			Persons.	Persons.	Males	Females						
Spennymoor Urban Dis.		3,388	17,909	18,238	9,033	9,205	5.4	3,854	17,968	3,702	14,210	0.79
Wards.	Civil Parishes.											
Ferryhill	...	552	3,615	3,652	1,850	1,802	6.6	764	3,637	736	2,557	0.70
"	Low-Spennymoor	237	1,689	1,748	881	867	7.4	367	748	355	1,192	0.68
"	Merrington Lane	315	1,926	1,904	969	935	6.0	397	1,889	381	1,365	0.72
Spennymoor	Whitworth (pt of)	168	6,281	6,502	3,256	3,246	38.7	1,443	6,463	1,373	5,330	0.82
Tudhoe	...	2,668	8,613	8,084	3,927	4,157	3.0	1,647	7,868	1,593	6,323	0.82
	...	1,853	7,872	7,942	3,867	4,075	4.3	1,615	7,726	1,563	6,209	0.80
	Whitworth (pt of)	815	141	142	60	82	0.2	32	142	30	114	0.80
Whitworth, Totals		983	6,422	6,644	3,316	3,328	6.8	1,475	6,605	1,403	5,444	0.81
DURHAM COUNTY		649,244	1369860	1479033	740,005	739,028	2.3	313,791	1,446,418	285,055	1,107,841	0.77

